



# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner:
Eisermann et al.	)	Unassigned
	)	
Application Serial No. 10/620,529	)	Group Art Unit: 3738
	)	
Filed: July 16, 2003	)	Ref. No.: MSDI-503/PC635.02
	)	
INTERVERTEBRAL PROSTHETIC JOINT	)	December 12, 2005

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified U.S. patent application. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

December 12, 2005

Date of Deposit

Brad A. Schepers

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

December 12, 2005

Date of Signature

12/15/2005 HGUTEMAI 00000053 10620529

01 FC:1201  
02 FC:1202

400.00 OP  
250.00 OP

Preliminary Amendment  
Application Serial No. 10/620,529  
INTERVERTEBRAL PROSTHETIC JOINT

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### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 41-65 were pending in the subject application prior to entry of this Preliminary Amendment. Claims 51-60 have been cancelled without prejudice for possible submission in a continuing application. New claims 66-80 have been added. In view of the following amendments and remarks, entry of the Preliminary Amendment and consideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.